

The Oregonian.

PORTLAND, FRIDAY, SEPT. 4, 1885.

THE CONTROVERSY ABOUT SILVER.

It is evident that our country, in dealing with the silver question, has reached a point where it is about to find serious embarrassment. The silver dollar it has enormous quantities in store, and the mint is turning out more, as rapidly as ever. The treasurer of the United States is not doing very well to do what he does, but he is doing it, though the administration has him to do it. A recent report says that he prefers to let the money accumulate in the treasury till it be seen next winter whether congress will not stop the coining of the silver, which he regards as a dangerous element in the finances of the country.

It will probably be asked in congress next winter whether it is the business of the treasurer to decide a monetary policy for the country, or simply to attend to his duties as prescribed by law. No one who knows anything about public opinion throughout the country can doubt that the popular suspicion that congress will stop the coining of silver is well founded. It is a sentiment throughout the country that will tolerate the idea of increasing all values by gold, alone. Gold is believed to be growing relatively scarce, and there is a general belief that much of the extraordinary depression of values and prices at the present time is due to the continued effort of the East to treat gold as the only money of the country. It is believed, too, that the influence of the money centers is very strong with the administration, causing it to discredit silver by declining to pay it out and to do business almost exclusively upon gold or paper based thereon.

Yet it is evident on the country in the treasury, and the gold will disappear and business would be shifted to the silver basis. For the silver dollar is not equal in value to the gold dollar, the amount of silver in it can be bought in the market of the world for less than 84 cents in gold, we cannot pay our debts to foreign countries except on the gold basis, and when we reach the silver basis the gold premium will be quoted, as it was in the days of the depreciated greenback.

Not long ago Secretary Manning, Representative Warner, and other political financiers, published a proposition for settlement of the silver question, substantially in this way, viz.: First, certificates on the gold standard should be issued at its market value at the time of its deposit, to stand as the declared value of the certificates in the hands of the public. Second, Such certificates to be a legal tender for all purposes, except in transactions, on specific contract, between private parties. Third, Make the certificates redeemable in lawful money, or at the option of the government in silver bullion at the time of redemption. Fourth, The coinage of silver to be suspended until required again to meet the actual demand for silver dollars.

This system would simply make the United States the holder of all the silver produced in the world, in fact, as it could be taken, accepted and stamped as bullion. The certificates would be a legal tender for all government and bank dues, which would make them in effect a legal tender for all purposes whatever. We should merely have a paper currency based on the bullion value of silver, the present system, would be a moderate and conservatively policy compared with this paper-silver scheme.

There are two extremes. On one side the desire is to hold to gold exclusively on the other to break gold by issue of unlimited quantities of silver. A compromise may be the result. This may be attained by an increase of the amount of silver in what is called the standard silver dollar, from the first title has the only solution.

SHERMAN'S SPEECH

Senator Sherman's speech has produced a lively commotion in the democratic mind everywhere. All the organs are crying out against it. By the token it may be known that in the speech there is nothing that hurts. It exposes wrongs that howl with rage as they are dragged to light. From day of old the democratic party has stood up for iniquities that could not bear discussion and exposure. It used to denounce all discussion of the iniquities of slavery as savagely as it now denounces every exposure of the southern democratic belief-being "Hated as a scoundrel" is the term it applies to Sherman's speech. Up to the time of the speech, and others still more recently, the "possessiveօist" speech, and to Lincoln's unanswerable declaration that the country "not yet permitted" half slave and half free."

Now, when Sherman, who is and has ever been as calm and moderate in speech as Lincoln and Sewards, says plainly that constitutional rights in the southern states are trampled down, and it is the duty of the republican party to build them up, that "with this we shall have peace, union and fraternity, without it agitation, contests and complaints," we are naturally to expect that the same outcry of "hateful sectionalism" will be raised against him that was raised against Lincoln, Seward, Chase, Sumner or Giddings, when either made a speech which told truths that could not be met. Of the effectiveness of speech against a great wrong, the world is witness by the example of the negroes among the anti-slavery and supporters of that wrong, and the nature, extent and enormity of the wrong itself may likewise be measured well by the fury it exhibits as it cuts through all available forces.

Another serious objection to the party feature is that it renders it more and more difficult for the party to stand up for the rights of the negro, of the slaves, and of the slaves. The party is organized with iniquities in all its heads and contents. It is a tumor, and its ventriloquial and ventriloquial nature, and the nature, extent and enormity of the wrong itself may likewise be measured well by the fury it exhibits as it cuts through all available forces.

There is one way of escape for the democratic party from such criticisms as that of Sherman's speech, which so much disturb it. That way lies through acceptance of the principle of equal political rights, a free ballot and a fair count. That way and no other.

It has been said that a "new departure" has taken place in democratic journalism in Port Huron, and certainly a peculiar departure it requires to be called such. Great men are no longer fit for political responsibility. Therefore, it is unpatriotic and wicked to protest against the electoral outrages committed in sixteen states in a solid southern confederacy.

Francis Murphy says the temperance people are now divided, the politicians against the earnest and practical workers in the cause, and between them the cause is not advancing. The two party agitators are the "politicians."

The Minnesota state fair will open September 2. For race alone, \$10,000 are offered. The managers are running advertisements of the fair in the Minneapolis and St. Paul papers, that cover a page of each.

AN EARNEST AND CLEAR ARGUMENT.

S. Merrill, D. D., one of the bishops of the Methodist Episcopal church, has published an elaborate article on "Prohibition and Party," which appears to embody the views and opinions of those Methodists who do not think that prohibition can be best promoted through a party. Such views do not necessarily constitute iniquities, but all who would destroy the liquor traffic, A clearer and stronger argument than Bishop Merrill's we have not seen. Its best purpose is to warn those who would push forward the cause of temperance against the mistake of attempting it through political or party action. If, says the bishop, the speeches of Reagan, Lounas, and others delivered within the present year, showed that the cause of temperance had not been advanced at the South, and that he knew all others, was the South's representative at the time of the Aug. 11, 1885, still "The pretense that the South has moved on and left old leader far behind, makes no difference in the facts. To what point has the South moved on, he based the position of its old leader?" He no more says that secession ought to be attempted again, or that slavery ought to be restored, than that "they do." This is the exact opposite of what the *standard* attributes to The Oregonian. If that paper would read with honest purpose it would avoid these misrepresentations.

The only paid media ever awarded to a proslavery medium at those given to St. Jacob's Oil is the best job cur.

MARRIED.

In this city the 30th, at the residence of Wm. Kerr, Esq., by the Rev. Geo. Ross, of Hillsboro, Oregon, Mr. and Mrs. Wm. L. Merrill, of Hillsboro, and Mrs. L. L. Murray, widow, just returned from a long trip in Europe, were married.

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AND COMMISSION
M. STEVENS
M. & C. CO.
and Company on Merchant-
ant, Sept. 11, 1885.
For Peal, L. J. and Co., new
Stocks, Aug. 1, 1885.
Sept. 11, 1885, 10 A.M.
M. & C. CO., Auctioneers.

R AUCTION SALE
OF
OLD FURNITURE
ITEMS FOR SALE
SEPT. 11, AT 10 A.M.
Kerr and Sons, 101 Main Street,
Portland, Oregon.

AUCTION SALE
OF
NATURE.
ITEMS ON SALE
AND 94 Sixth St., between
and Stark Streets.

AT, SEPT. 11, 1885.
10 o'clock A.M.
Brown Suite, Double, including
Two Chairs, Two Chairs, Table
and Table, Toilet Sets, and
Machinery and Fixtures of
Lawrence Hotel.
M. & C. CO., Auctioneers.

DECISION DAY.

COLLEGE.

PERFECTLY EQUIPPED SCHOOL

ROOMS FOR THE STUDY OF

ANNUAL ATTENDANCE

IN THE STUDY OF

SCIENCE.

